

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1           1.       A portable rating apparatus for rating media content, comprising:
- 2               a user-manipulable control dedicated for generating a signal indicating a rating of
- 3       the media content, the rating corresponding to one of a plurality of predefined categories of
- 4       preferences;
- 5               a processor, operatively connected to said user-manipulable control, for receiving
- 6       the signal from said user-manipulable control and for associating the rating with the media
- 7       content; and
- 8               a memory device, operatively connected to said processor, for storing the rating
- 9       associated with the media content.

- 1           2.       The device of claim 1, wherein said memory device further stores the
- 2       media content and said processor receives the signal from said user-manipulable control as said
- 3       processor plays the media content stored in said memory device.

- 1           3.       The device of claim 1, wherein the user-manipulable control includes a
- 2       switch having a plurality of depressible buttons, each of said plurality of depressible buttons
- 3       corresponding to one of said plurality of predefined categories of preferences.

4. The device of claim 1, wherein said user-manipulable control includes a multi-position switch movable among different positions, each of said positions corresponding to one of said plurality of predefined categories of preferences.

5. The device of claim 3, wherein the multi-position switch includes a pivotable lever.

6. The device of claim 1, wherein the user-manipulable control is attachable to a portion of a headphone and the processor and the memory device are attachable to a media player.

7. The device of claim 1, wherein said portion of a headphone includes a headphone cord.